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JOINT STAFF
JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF
1 FEBRUARY 1962

COVER AND DECEPTION

1. General Situation:

a. The Department of Defense has been directed to take action to disrupt the Cuban sugar cane harvest. In order to achieve this mission, it is necessary to interfere with the civilian labor force to the extent that they would be unable to conduct or support the harvest.

b. The sugar harvest period is 15 January through 15 April. The most critical period is from 1 February to 1 April. Therefore time is of the essence.

c. A general call-up of the Cuban militia would have a deleterious effect upon the Cuban sugar harvest by reducing the size of the available labor force.

d. Enclosure 1 is an outlined plan for the test of CINCLANT Cuban Contingency Operation Plans simultaneously with a test of CINCONAD's plan for the defense of southern Florida (Southern Tip, CONAD OPOD 1-61).

e. Procedures and command relationships outlined or directed by this plan effect only this plan and do not effect nor constitute a precedent for future command arrangements.

f. Assumptions:

(1) Information can be passed to the Government of Cuba that the test of CINCLANT Contingency Plans and the test of the Air Defense of southern Florida is in reality a cover for an invasion of Cuba by the United States.

(2) The conduct of the operations involving the test of the contingency operation plans and the air defense of southern Florida will cause Castro to call-up militia for the defense of Cuba.

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(3) The call-up of the militia will disrupt the sugar cane harvest to a major degree.

2. Mission:

a. CINCLANT and CINCONAD will plan for and execute the simultaneous tests of CINCLANT Contingency Operation Plans 314/316-61 and CINCONAD Operation Order 1-61 in accordance with Enclosure 1. CINCSTRIKE, CINCPAC and other theatre ^{Augment and} and force commanders will support as directed herein.

b. Information will be passed through appropriate channels to the Government of Cuba that these tests are, in reality, a cover for the invasion of Cuba by the United States. It is recognized that this information may result in an alert of Cuban forces thus tending to jeopardize a successful accomplishment of the OPLAN 314/316-61 mission, if the OPLAN were to be necessarily executed. However, any Cuban mobilization thus engendered might cause a related economic harassment, considered an underlying desirable result.

c. Normal publicity will be given to the test operations. Foreign observers will be invited if practicable. Although SOLIDARITY I, conducted in 1961, was attended by high level Latin American officials, a similar group should be invited to observe the Vieques demonstration; on a 1-day show of progress in armament, technique, materiels, equipment, and procedures. Their presence in the area as guests of the US would tend to give an air of Western Hemisphere solidarity to this portion of the exercises.

d. The operation will be conducted in early March 1962, if basic task remains to be disruption of the sugar harvest. If policy considerations, military impracticality, or other factors affect the timing of a policy decision (required by 12 February 1962), alternative slippage dates of 1 May 1962, to

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coincide with the Communist "May Day" celebration (a time which would find a semi-military alert, probably not desirable yet possible quite concentrated in the Havana area), or 26 July 1962 which would coincide with "Castro" Day (again confronting a semi-mobilized situation but which imaginatively could be interpreted as a deliberate taunt to Castro). Other dates are under study. Additional guidance concerning slippage dates will be provided by the Joint Chiefs of Staff if the arrangement of other currently scheduled exercises conflicting with this plan make changes militarily or politically desirable.

3. Operations:

a. Concept:

(1) Enclosure 1 directs CINCLANT and CINCONAD to prepare operation orders for the testing of CINCLANT OPLANS 314/316-61 in conjunction with a test of CINCONAD Opord 1-61.

b. Phases of Operations:

- (1) Deception
- (2) Alert CINCLANT, CINCONAD, CINCSTRIKE, and CINCARIB.
- (3) Alerting and Prepositioning of Forces
- (4) Maneuvers
- (5) Withdrawal of CONAD forces
- (6) US Courses of Action if Attacked
- (7) Withdrawal of CINCLANT forces
- (8) Cover

c. Phase I - Deception

(1) Tasks - To cause the Cuban ruling body to believe that an attack/invasion is imminent.

(2) Concept - To be accomplished through pre-planned leaks.

(a) Deception Story - Covertly release to reliable Cuban agents a deception story that an invasion of Cuba is going to take place under the guise of an air defense exercise.

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Aircraft are deployed in Puerto Rico, and are being carefully guarded. Special shipments of armament have been received at deployment bases and aircraft crews are under constant guard.

d. Phase II - Alert CINCLANT and CINCONAD

(1) Tasks - JCS forward Enclosure 1 to CINCLANT and CINCONAD for execution on or about 14 March 1962, as directed by the JCS.

(2) Concept

(a) CINCLANT and CINCONAD prepare Operation Orders to implement Enclosure 1.

(b) Continue deception through an increased tempo of activities and interest, i.e. Notices to commercial users of the Caribbean area that major military operations are to be conducted in that area (NOTAMS).

e. Phase III - Alerting and Prepositioning of Forces

(1) Tasks

(a) To place forces in position to accomplish the mission; to include the conduct of the exercises while maintaining an optimum readiness posture for any actual contingency action ordered by higher authority.

(b) Commence normal publicity for a scheduled operation to test the air defense of Southeastern United States.

(c) Commence normal publicity for a scheduled operation to test the capability of US Armed Forces to react to emergencies in the Caribbean area.

(2) Concept

(a) A "tailored" CINCLANT Joint Task Force to be in position to conduct airborne and amphibious operations in the vicinity of Vieques as outlined in Enclosure 1.

(b) Normal Guantanamo augmentation forces to be available to reinforce Naval Base Guantanamo should the need arise.

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(c) CINCPAC forces required for support of CINCLANT OPLANS 314/316-61 will be alerted and deployed in accordance with Enclosure 1 and Annex A thereto.

(d) CINCSTRIKE forces required for support of CINCLANT OPLANS 314/316-61 to be alerted on a test basis. (CINCSTRIKE forces participating in the "tailored" Joint Task Forces (as outlined in Tab A to Annex A to Enclosure 1).

(e) Available CINCLANT forces not participating in the operational test of OPLANS 314/316-61 or the air defense of Southeastern Florida to be alerted and engaged in loading drills and other maneuvers on the East and Gulf coasts of the US.

(f) CONAD forces (an ADC target fleet, AEW & C aircraft and interceptors) to be in position to conduct operations as outlined in Annex B to Enclosure 1.

(3) Forces required - As specified in Enclosure 1.

f. Phase IV - Maneuver

(1) Tasks

(a) To maneuver in such a manner as to convince the Cuban Government that an attack/invasion is imminent or in progress.

(b) To take such protective measures as necessary to retain integrity of all elements of the joint and other participating forces.

(c) To maintain a readiness posture for any actual contingency situation which might develop.

(2) Scheme of Maneuvers

(a) CINCLANT (Joint Task Force 122) forces will be alerted for Cuban contingency operations as a test of applicable contingency operations plans. Certain tailored elements of these forces will maneuver in the Caribbean Sea in such a manner that while ostensibly conducting an air/sea assault on

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Vieques Island the Joint Task Force could launch an assault/landing against the Cuban land mass.

(b) CINCPAC force programmed for employment in CINCLANT OPLANS 134/316-61 will be deployed enroute to, and transit the Panama Canal for CHOP to and utilization by CINCLANT, as requested by CINCLANT.

(c) Additional CINCLANT (JTF 122) forces will conduct loading drills and deployment maneuvers along and off the Gulf and East coasts of the US, further signifying a mounting-out operation in a test of existing contingency plans.

(d) CONAD (USAF ADC target fleet) aircraft will fly predetermined routes. A flight of 19 B-57 aircraft out of Wyndall AFB, will fly to approximately 10 miles off the Northeast coast of the Yucatan Peninsula and then head for the west coast of Cuba. Upon reaching a point approximately 10 miles off of Cuba, the aircraft will turn to maintain a track that will parallel the North coast of Cuba approximately 10 miles off shore. Upon reaching a position directly south of Key West, the aircraft will turn north and recover at Key West NAS, Homestead or MacDill AFB. The 15 B-57 aircraft being scheduled out of Ramey AFB will initially fly southerly and then head for the CINCLANT Vieques Joint Task Force; then changing to northerly course, fly around the east end of Puerto Rico; taking a course to the north of the Island of Hispaniola; then heading directly toward military and governmental targets in Cuba. Upon reaching a point approximately 10 miles off shore (initiating turns at 15 miles), the aircraft will alter course to maintain a track parallel to the North coast of Cuba approximately 10 miles off shore. Upon reaching a position due south of Miami the aircraft will turn north and recover at Key West NAS, Homestead or MacDill AFB. The target force will be launched at a time to have the forces from Ramey AFB arrive

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RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES
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DATE/TIME GROUP	OBJECTIVES TO BE SUPPORTED	TASK	IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES
11. (Continued)			(6) Commence special operational weather observations and broadcasts.	WX SERVICES
12. C-Date minus 48 hours to C-24 hours	Provide necessary intelligence for operation	Obtain ELINT and Electronic Order of Battle	TAC ELINT aircraft commence snoop flights	JCS, USAF TAC
13. C-Date minus 24 hours	General Readiness to prevent surprise in event of hostile Cuban reaction	Increase readiness	Increase alert of all commands and forces participating in exercise.	JCS, SERVICES ALL PARTICIPATING COMMANDS
14. C-Day H-Hour	Conduct Air Defense Exercise	a. Test COMAD Op Ord J-61 b. Provide close air cover for COMAD target fleet from attack by CRAF	CONAD Target and ELINT aircraft approach Cuba on courses simulating an attack to harass Cuba. Break off at 10 miles and parallel Cuban coast at minimum of 10 miles distance. Continue to US and make simulated attacks against US targets to test COMAD air defenses.	JCS CINCOMNAV TAC
	Conduct test of CINCLANT Op Plans 314-61 and 316-61	(a) Alert all forces and scheduled for rehearsal. Conduct taken enroute assault at Vieques. Conduct taken air resupply at Vieques. (2) The ready Phil Ron with embarked	CINCLANT forces provide close air cover for COMAD target aircraft within 50 miles of Cuban coast line and until COMAD aircraft enter US ADIZ	CINCLANT

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IMPLEMENTATION RESPONSIBLE AGENCIES

CINCLANT

ACTIONS

BLT to be at sea in vicinity of Guantanamo.

(3) Standby Phib Ron with a BLT embarked (or Lant Phiblex forces) conduct amphibious exercise at Vieques with token forces in landing.

(4) Conduct token or simulated air-drop of supplies

(5) Airlift the standby battalion of Marines at Cherry Point, N.C. to Guantanamo.

(6) Pacific fleet augmentation unit (1/3 Marine Division/Wing team) will be at sea in the Caribbean area, but at sufficient distance that their location will not be known in Cuba.

b. Command Weapons Demonstration(1) if determined feasible and appropriate

CINCLANT
CINCARIB

(CINCLANT host 1-day weapon demonstrations for Latin Americans recommended by CINCARIB - (CINCARIB to assist with invitations, transportation, etc.)

OBJECTIVES TO BE SUPPORTED

TASK

DATE/TIME GROUP

14. (Continued)

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at the East coast of Cuba at the same time as the target forces from Tyndall AFB arrive at the West coast of Cuba. When in-bound toward CONUS, these forces will simulate attacks on US targets in the Southeast US area to test the US Air Defense.

(e) CINCLANT will make provision for carrier and land based fighter escort in support of the CONAD Target Fleet aircraft as outlined in Annexes A and B to Enclosure 1. Basically, the fighter escort will be provided from the time the Target Fleet elements approach within fifty (50) nautical miles of the Cuban land mass until they enter the coastal ADIZ. Close air cover operations will also be made available to support AEW & C and ELINT operations on an "as required" basis. In the event that CONAD (ADC Target Fleet and AEW & C) aircraft are attacked by the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force (CRAF), escort aircraft will take action in accordance with Appendix I to Annex A to Enclosure 1. CINCLANT fighter escort will carry live loads with ammunition fed into the chambers. All pilots, will be briefed on and adhere to the "Rules of Engagement" as specified in Appendix I to Annex A to Enclosure 1.

(f) Prior, during and subsequent to the above operations, intelligence information will be gained by all means. Elements of TAC performing ELINT operations will comply with Annex D to Enclosure 1. Target aircraft crews will be provided with cameras. ELINT aircraft, shipborne and land-based communications will actively seek out and retain intelligence information.

(g) In the event that CONAD (ADC Target Fleet) aircraft are attacked by CRAF elements, they will evade away from the Cuban coast and terminate their participation in the exercise.

(h) To heighten the illusion of the threat CINCLANT will direct the evacuation of selected civilians from Guantanamo.

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(i) Air activity in the Cuban area will be increased by extra flights scheduled from Key West.

(j) "Heckler" flights will be directed, with aircraft moving toward Cuba at a high altitude, diving for the deck about 30 miles out and returning to base. Thirty minutes to an hour later these procedures may be reversed with flights going out low and returning high. All "heckler" aircraft will remain at least 10 miles from the Cuban land mass.

(k) Resupply of the Guantanamo Naval Base will be accelerated; to include planning for water resupply.

(l) A series of unusual Washington, D.C. activities will be suggested, i.e., meetings of senior US personnel; special White House/JCS meetings; re-call of senior representatives to Washington for White House meetings, etc.

g. Phase V - Withdrawal of CONAD (Target Fleet) aircraft.

(1) Tasks -

(a) To withdraw the CONAD Target Fleet aircraft from the vicinity of Cuba and terminate the tactical evaluation of the CONAD air defense test participation in the exercises in the event of hostile action by the CRAF; and ensure integrity of all elements of US CONAD forces.

(2) Concepts -

(a) The CONAD Target Fleet elements will withdraw and the tactical evaluation of CONAD Opord 1-61 will be terminated immediately upon positive hostile action by CRAF aircraft against the Target Fleet. AEW & C aircraft will remain on station unless directly attacked, in which case evasive action will be taken by the aircraft under attack. TAC ELINT aircraft will continue to fly the routes specified in Annex D to Enclosure 1, unless directly attacked, at which time action will be taken as directed by CINCLANT. Hostile forces attacking elements of the CONAD Target Fleet, AEW & C aircraft

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TAC ELINT aircraft or elements of JTF 122 forces will be engaged as directed by CINCLANT. CINCLANT will be prepared to implement CINCLANT OPLANS 314/316-61 as directed by the JCS.

h. Phase VI - US Courses of Action if Attacked by Cuban Forces

- (1) Implement CINCLANT Operation Plan 314/316-61.
- (2) To intervene against the attacking force with air superiority fighter aircraft in airspace outside of acknowledged Cuban territorial waters and/or airspace.
- (3) To intervene against the attacking force with air superiority fighter aircraft to the extent of hot pursuit into acknowledged Cuban territorial waters and/or airspace.
- (4) Call on OAS for mutual support against Castro Regime because of the unprovoked attack on US forces.
- (5) Protests to the United Nations and Organization of American States.
- (6) Deny any provocation or violation of Cuban airspace.
- (7) Exploit through the press, UN and OAS the hostile actions by the CRAF against unarmed US aircraft acting as targets in an air defense tactical evaluation.

i. Phase VII - Withdrawal of CINCLANT Forces.

- (1) Tasks -
 - (a) To withdraw the CINCLANT (JTF 122) Joint Task Force forces from the vicinity of Vieques should there be no hostile Cuban reaction.
 - (b) To withdraw the CINCLANT (JTF 122) Joint Task Force forces participating in loading and other operational maneuvers along and off the East and Gulf coasts of the US for return to prealert posture should there be no hostile Cuban reaction.
 - (c) To return CINCLANT temporarily allocated PACOM forces to a prealert posture should there be no hostile Cuban reaction.

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(d) To return the CINCLANT Ready Caribbean amphibious forces, including embarked Marines, to normal Caribbean operations.

(e) To return any evacuees to Guantanamo, to signify the determination of the US to retain the Naval Base.

(f) To return all US forces involved in the execution of CINCLANT OPLANS 314/316-61 to normal posture following the successful accomplishment of the 314/316-61 mission and the establishment of a Cuban government friendly to the US.

(2) Concept:

(a) Should there be no hostile Cuban reaction to the exercises described herein the following will pertain:

a Upon completion of the Vieques area air/sea exercise outlined in Annex A to Enclosure 1, participating CINCLANT forces will be returned to home bases and parent commands as directed by CINCLANT.

b When directed by the JCS, CINCLANT will return those OPLANS 314/316-61 designated forces participating in East and Gulf coast exercises to a prealert status. Similarly, when directed by the JCS, CINCSTRIKE will return all other alerted STRIKECOM forces to a prealert status.

c When released by CINCLANT, the temporarily allocated PACOM forces will be returned to the PACOM area by CINCLANT.

d When directed by the JCS, CINCLANT will return the Ready Caribbean amphibious forces, including embarked Marines, to the normal Caribbean readiness and training operations.

e When directed by the JCS, CINCLANT will return the/any selected evacuees to Naval Base Guantanamo.

(b) Should US military intervention in Cuba become desirable and CINCLANT OPLANS 314/316-61 executed, upon

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